



The Way of the Cross

Brent Moody · Matthew 16:5–17:13 · Series: **The Way of Jesus**

INTRODUCTION

- The idea of the cross is already coming into Jesus' teaching well before he actually goes to the cross.
- Glory through the Messiah and glory through discipleship and following him is going to come through suffering, not through power, not through dominance, not through wealth.
- Jesus wants his disciples to turn their attention from the physical things that seem to dominate their thinking to a more spiritual way of seeing the world around them.

1 Beware of the Leaven of the Pharisees

Matthew 16:5–12; 1 Corinthians 5

- One of the rhythms to the gospel stories is the continuing opposition of religious leaders. They keep coming back and they keep opposing.
- They're unwilling to see reality. It should be obvious to them, but they refuse to see it.
- Watch and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.
- Leaven is this negative, sinful, impure, corrupting influence.
- These religious leaders are neither truly religious nor leaders worth following.
- Don't live like them. Don't follow their lead. Beware of their influence.

2 Confession and Commitment Are Not the Same

Matthew 16:13–20; Matthew 16:21–25

- Peter makes this confession, right? You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.
- From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed, and on the third day be raised up.
- Confession and commitment are not the same thing. You can confess things that are true and right and then not live them.
- You are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.
- If you're gonna follow me, you have to deny yourself and take up your cross and follow me.
- You've got to trust me that you're gonna have to find glory through suffering and death.

3 Rise and Have No Fear: Listen to Him

Matthew 17:1–8; Exodus 40; Isaiah 42

- This is a call to faith, a call to commitment and trust that whatever Jesus says and wherever Jesus goes, you will go with him.

- If you will walk with him through the valley of the shadow of death, then you will rise up and you'll have no fear in the face of danger.
- A voice from the cloud said, This is my beloved son, with whom I'm well pleased. Listen to him.
- Jesus himself is the tent, he is the tabernacle, he is the temple.
- It doesn't matter what men say and the ideas that other humans come up with. It's what Jesus says that actually matters.
- What he does want is us to have the type of minds who are open to truth, who are willing to listen, particularly to the words of Jesus.

THE CHALLENGE

And so the question ultimately is will I listen to God's Son? Will I listen to Jesus?

MY NOTES
